THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the road map approved by the Government for vehicular emission norms, it is proposed to introduce petrol and diesel to meet Bharat Stage-II and EURO-III equivalent vehicular emission norms from 1st April 2005 and 1st April 2010 respectively in the entire country. In respect of certain identified cities, it is proposed to introduce Bharat Stage-II and EURO-III equivalent norms from 1st April 2003 and 1st April 2005 respectively.

Basic amenities at Mehar Ki Devi Tample in Satna, M.P.

†2075. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pilgrims visiting the Mehar Ki Devi, a religious place of Hindus situated in Satna have to face the problems of roads, electricity, water and accommodation and whether the Government can take over the tample with a view to take the responsibilities of making all the arrangements; and

(b) what are the barriers before the Central Government in way of taking over the temple of Mehar Ki Devi because it is one of the famous pilgrimages in Northern India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported that there is availability of road, electricity, water and accommodation for the pilgrims visiting Mehar Ki Devi. The State Government has no proposal to take over the temple. Also the Archaeological Survey of India has no proposal at present under consideration to take over the temple under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

Outcome of the meeting of World Tourism Mart

2076. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of World Tourism Mart was held in the country in November, 2002;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether a total of 84 Indian exhibitors attended this meeting;

(c) if so, what are the names of other countries that participated in the meeting;

(d) whether this year, more than double delegates and countries participated in the meeting; and

(e) if so, to what extent the decisions taken will help to improve the tourist traffic in India and also in the world?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (e) The World Tourism Mart (WTM) was held in London from Nov. 11—14, 2002. This year, WTM attracted larger participation and over 5000 travel and tourism related companies from 185 countries including Thailand, Singapore, United Kingdom, France, China, Malaysia. etc. participated. The Government of India also participated in the event in association with 15 State Governments and 59 travel and tourism related organizations. The opportunity was used to re-position India's tourism products in various key markets under the brand—'Incredible India'. Foreign Travel Trade and media were briefed on the new developments and initiatives underway for marketing and development of various tourism products.

Tourist guide training on spiritual aspect of Majuli Island

2077. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken or proposed to be taken for organizing a special tourist guide training on spiritual aspect of Majuli Island in collaboration with Government of Assam;

(b) the action taken by Government to preserve the heritage properties maintained in the Satra Institutions of Assam;

(c) whether any survey has been made on the Archaeological sites or properties in the Majuli Island of Assam;

(d) if so, the list of properties/sites identified; and

(e) if not, by when it is likely to be completed?